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petroleum products. The specimens exhibited are for final deposit in the National Museum, at Washington, D. C.

This being the last meeting of the Geological Section before the summer vacation, adjournment was made till October.—RICHARD E. DODGE, *Secretary*.

SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

A bill before the Michigan legislature to change the name of the Michigan Mining School to the Michigan College of Mines became a law early in April, and the latter is now the proper name of the institution. The students and the people of the Upper Peninsula generally have accepted the new name gladly, considering it much more appropriate for the character of the work done in the institution.

Another bill which has been pending for some time regarding the charging of tuition has been passed, fixing the rate at \$25.00 for residents of Michigan, and not less than \$50.00 or more than \$200.00 for those residing outside of Michigan. The exact rate has not yet been determined by the Board of Control of the College. The question is under consideration, and in all probability will be fixed at \$150.00 for non-residents of Michigan. This amount of tuition fee will correspond with that charged by other first grade technical schools in America, such as Columbia College School of Mines, the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the Stevens Institute of Technology, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

When the school was working out its policy, trying to solve its educational problems, it was thought wisest to charge no tuition, but to collect as wide a constituency as possible in order that there might be all possible chance to make the methods as broad and thorough as could be done. It was also deemed hardly just to the students educated here to demand tuition until the institution was much better equipped for its work than the appropriations granted during the first decade of its existence permitted. Now that success has been attained in educating men for practical work, as is evidenced by the positions which its eighty-six graduates hold, a list of which is given in the last catalogue, the institution seems fully warranted in charging hereafter for its instruction.

The new law goes into effect immediately after August 19, 1897, and will therefore not apply to students entering previous to that time.

A prospectus will soon be issued by the College, giving the details of the regulations finally adopted by the Board of Control.—FRANCES H. SCOTT.

In addition to the excursions already proposed for the geologist members of the coming International Geological Congress the Committee of Organization finds itself in position to propose a visit to the glacier Tseisky, which will have for its starting point the station Darg-Kokh of the railway Rostow-Wladikavkaz. The trip will occupy two days, Sept. 4th (16th)—Sept. 8th (18th), and will be made under the direction of K. Rossikow. The expense is estimated at 20 francs in addition to that of the principal excursion.

As has been stated before in the *NATURALIST*, arrangements have been made for excursions to the Urals, to Esthonia, to Finnland, to the Crimea, and to the Dnieper. As the number of participants in these excursions is necessarily limited, geologists who are expecting to take advantage of these opportunities for research are advised to communicate their wishes to the Committee on Organization at an early date.

On April 14th the Zoological Station at Naples celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its foundation. The German government has recognized the value of the station by voting, in 1880, to contribute \$7,500 a year to it, which sum was increased in 1890 to \$10,000. For \$500 a year anyone can secure a "table" in the laboratory with all the privileges and conveniences it affords. Germany and her universities have 10 tables, Italy 9, Austria and Russia 2 each, Holland, Belgium, Hungary, Switzerland, Roumania, Bulgaria, 1 each, while others are held by the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Columbia, the British Association, and Smithsonian Institution. The only state which ever gave up its table was Spain, which no longer felt able to pay for it.

Work will soon be in full progress on the erection of a portion of the new Museum of Archeology and Paleontology, for the University of Pennsylvania. The architecture will be simple and of Italian renaissance style. Salmon brick will be the main feature in the building, although there will be plenty of stone trimming. A botanical garden, covering ten acres, will be laid out around the museum. The site of the structure was ceded to the University by the city on condition that a museum of art and science, surrounded by a botanical garden, be erected on it. The portion to be erected immediately will cost not less than \$500,000, while the cost of the whole building will foot up to \$4,000,000.

Doctors Maxwell and Swan, of Monmouth (Ill.) College, propose to organize a summer school of biology in connection with the college. The trustees have approved the plans, and the school will probably be located on the Mississippi River not far from Monmouth. The term will consist of a six weeks' course, and the tuition will be \$15.00. The college will furnish the necessary collecting apparatus, microscopes, laboratory necessities, and boats for conveyance. The students will be directed by Drs. Maxwell and Swan.

Dr. Persifor Frazer has been appointed to represent the Academy of Natural Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, and the University of Pennsylvania at the International Congress of Geologists at St. Petersburg. He has been commissioned by the Academy to present the Hayden Memorial award, consisting of a bronze medal and the interest of the special endowment, to Prof. A. Karpinski, the Chief of the Geological Survey of Russia, in recognition of the value of his contributions to geological and paleontological science.

The American Philosophical Society held a meeting followed by a conversazione in honor of Sir Archibald Geikie, on the evening of May 7th, at which the eminent geologist gave a rapid resumé of the recent geological work in the Hebrides and Faroe Isles. Previous to the reading of the paper the Society was presented by a few of its members with a portrait of the late Professor E. D. Cope, painted by Mr. George W. Pettit of Philadelphia.

Mr. H. Wilde, president of the Manchester Scientific and Literary Society has given the Paris Academy of Sciences the sum of \$27,000 to be used in giving an annual prize of \$800, for a discovery or publication in physical science, the prize to be made international. Mr. Wilde states that this gift is made in return for the benefit which he has derived from French science.

In accordance with the will of the late Prof. E. D. Cope, his fossil collection is to be sold and the proceeds devoted to establishing a chair of paleontology in the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences, whose occupant must be approved by the National Academy, and whose duty shall be chiefly that of original research.

The Constantine Medal has been awarded by the Russian Geographical Society to Th. Tschernyschew, for his many years' work on the geography and geology of Russia.

Joseph F. James, M. D., Died March 29, 1897.